



Los Angeles County Regional Park And Open Space District

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October 14, 2014

The Honorable Board of Directors
County of Los Angeles
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

3-P October 14, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE COUNTY EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO
THE THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZE AWARD
AND ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT AMENDMENT TO
THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
FOR THE DON WALLACE TRAIL PROJECT
(THIRD DISTRICT)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$900,000 in County Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the proposed Don Wallace Trail Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Certify that the Board, as a responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, has independently considered and reached its own conclusions regarding the environmental effects of the proposed Don Wallace Trail Project and the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program adopted by the County of Los Angeles as lead agency; determine that the documents adequately address the environmental impacts of the proposed Don Wallace Trail Project; find that the Board has complied with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act with respect to the process for a responsible agency and adopt by reference the County's Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program.
2. Allocate an amount not to exceed \$900,000 in County Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the proposed Don Wallace Trail

Project.

3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant amendment to the Department of Parks and Recreation when applicable conditions have been met; and to administer the grant amendment as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise, funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$900,000 in County Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), to the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) for the proposed Don Wallace Trail Project (Project).

On March 18, 2011 and September 11, 2012, the Board awarded a total of \$800,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to 1996 Proposition, to the Department for the proposed Project. During the planning phase, however, the need for additional material and other costs were identified. As a result, an additional \$900,000 is requested to supplement the existing grant.

The proposed Project involves the development of approximately 1,500 linear feet of a multi-use trail segment of the Las Virgenes Creek Trail, including the installation of signage and related amenities. The total project cost is estimated at \$2,987,000. The recommended \$900,000 of County Excess Funds and the previously awarded \$800,000 of Specified Excess Funds will be supplemented by \$1,287,000 in Proposition 62 Utility User Tax Funds.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, be authorized to award a grant amendment when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the Project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee's agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the Project, if applicable. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grant amendment pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by the Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by providing access to recreational activities through vital trails connections in the Santa Monica Mountains in the Third Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant amendment in the amount of \$900,000 is budgeted in the Third Supervisorial District's portion of the Regional Park and Open Space District's (RPOSD) Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. The Department has met this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The proposed Project will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Third Supervisorial District for County projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director will be authorized to award grant amendment when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

On June 2, 2009, the Board approved the Procedural Guide for governing the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will also appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grants.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with the CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The County of Los Angeles is the lead agency for the proposed Project.

The County, in its role as lead agency in matters pertaining to compliance with CEQA, adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program on March 18, 2011; found and determined that, with the imposition of mitigation measures as a condition of approval of the proposed Project, there was no substantial evidence that the proposed Project would have a significant effect on the environment; found that the Mitigated Negative Declaration reflected the independent judgment of the County; approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and found that the project will have no adverse effect on fish and wildlife resources. As part of the scope of the Mitigated Negative Declaration, a Mitigation Monitoring Program has been included. This program will be implemented and monitored by the County.

With respect to the Board's approval of the proposed Project described herein, RPOSD also acts as a responsible agency for the purposes of CEQA. Therefore, it is recommended that the Board independently consider and adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and the Mitigation Monitoring Program.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Grant Amendment (Amendment) will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met. The Amendment will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

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These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD, but are required so that the Department may proceed with the proposed Project in the Third Supervisorial District, if all applicable conditions are met.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Facilities and Asset Management Division; and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:JB:WRO

c: Chief Executive Officer
Acting County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors